

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

A2 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
2 presenting a user interface in a test system;
3 receiving user selection through the user interface pertaining to
4 environment information of a target database system to extract; and
5 receiving, by the test system, the environment information extracted based
6 on the user selection from the target database system, wherein the test system is separate
7 from the target database system.

1 2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising
2 emulating the target database system in the test system using the ~~imported~~ received
3 environment information.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface
2 comprises presenting plural screens each containing at least a graphical user interface
3 element that is user selectable.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens
2 comprises presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by
3 a user to select, for extraction, one of environment information associated with an entire
4 database in the target database system and environment information associated with
5 tables referenced by a query.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface
2 comprises presenting user-selectable options corresponding to types of environment
3 information to extract from the target database system.

A2 1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein presenting the user-selectable
2 options comprises presenting options corresponding to statistics information and cost
3 parameters.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein presenting the user-selectable
2 options comprises presenting a further option corresponding to data relating to definitions
3 of relations.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein presenting the user-selectable
2 options comprises presenting a further option corresponding to samples associated with
3 access modules.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the
2 environment information in the user interface.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein presenting the user interface
2 comprises providing a user-selectable element that when activated enables editing of the
3 environment information.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the received
2 environment information in plural files.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein presenting a user-selectable
2 element that when activated causes the files to be combined.

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1 14. (Currently Amended) A first system comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a display; and
4 software executable on the processor to present a user interface in the
5 display,
6 the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate
7 environment information to export from a target database system separate from the first
8 system.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 14, wherein the software is
2 executable on the processor to export the environment information from the target
3 database system.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 14, wherein the user
2 interface comprises plural screens containing the user-selectable elements.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 16, wherein one of the
2 plural screens contains a first user-selectable element to indicate extraction of
3 environment information associated with a database of the target database system.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 17, wherein another one of
2 the plural screens contains a second user-selectable element to indicate extraction of
3 environment information associated with one or more tables associated with a query in
4 the target database system.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 18, wherein the other one
2 of the plural screens comprises a query selection element to select one or plural queries
3 for which environment information is to be extracted.

1 20. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 19, wherein the query
2 selection element enables selection of the one or plural queries from a file.

A2 1 21. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 19, wherein the query
2 selection element enables selection of the one or more plural queries from a query capture
3 database.

1 22. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 14, wherein the user-
2 selectable elements indicate one or more types of the environment information to export.

1 23. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 22, wherein the one or
2 more types of the environment information comprises one or more of the following:
3 statistics information, cost information, information pertaining to definition of relations,
4 and samples of data demographics of access modules in the target database system.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 14, wherein the user-
2 selectable elements comprise an element to enable editing of the environment
3 information.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 24, wherein the user-
2 selectable elements further comprise another element to undo editing of the environment
3 information.

1 26. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 24, wherein the software is
2 executable to display the environment information in the display.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim 14, wherein the software is
2 executable to export the environment information from the target database system and
3 subsequently to import the environment information to a test system.

A2 1 28. (Currently Amended) An article comprising at least one storage medium
2 containing instructions that when executed cause a first system to:
3 present a user interface;
4 receive user selection made in the user interface indicating environment
5 information to extract from a target database system separate from the first system; and
6 receive the environment information extracted based on the user selection
7 from the target database system.

1 29. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the first system to import the environment information to a test
3 system.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the first system to present the user interface by presenting plural
3 screens having user-selectable elements.

1 31. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the first system to receive activation of the user-selectable elements
3 to select types of environment information to extract.

A3 1 32. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens comprises
2 presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by a user to
3 select, for extraction, environment information associated with tables referenced by a
4 query.

1 33. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the environment
2 information comprises receiving at least one of the following information: number of
3 nodes in the target database system, number of processors per node, statistics, and
4 random samples pertaining to data demographics of data stored in the target database
5 system.

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1 34. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising emulating the target
2 database system based on the environment information.

1 35. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising generating an
2 execution plan for a query based on an emulated database environment created by
3 emulating the target database system.

1 36. (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising visually displaying
2 steps of the execution plan in the user interface.

1 37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the emulated database
2 environment comprises plural storage modules and plural access module processors to
3 access, in parallel, respective storage modules,
4 wherein generating the execution plan comprises generating the execution
5 plan for execution by the plural access module processors.

1 38. (New) The first system of claim 14, further comprising a controller to
2 emulate the target database system based on the environment information, the controller
3 to generate an emulated database environment based on the emulating.

1 39. (New) The first system of claim 38, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 generate an execution plan in the emulated database environment.

1 40. (New) The first system of claim 39, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 visually display the execution plan in the display.

1 41. (New) The first system of claim 40, wherein the controller comprises
2 plural software modules.

AB 1 42. (New) The first system of claim 14, further comprising a controller to
2 provide the environment information to a test system to enable emulation of the target
3 database system by the test system.

1 43. (New) The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the first system to emulate the target database system based on the environment
3 information.

1 44. (New) The article of claim 28, wherein receiving the environment
2 information comprises receiving at least one of the following information: number of
3 nodes in the target database system, number of processors per node, statistics, and
4 random samples pertaining to data demo graphics of data stored in the target database
5 system.

1 45. (New) The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the first system to emulate the target database system based on the environment
3 information.

1 46. (New) The article of claim 45, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the first system to generate an execution plan for a query based on an emulated
3 database environment created by emulating the target database system.

1 47. (New) The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the first system to display steps of the execution plan in the user interface.

1 48. (New) The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the first system to provide the environment information to a test system to enable
3 emulation of the target database system in the test system.
